

REMARKS

By this amendment, applicants have amended the independent claims to recite that an electrostatic field is generated between electrostatic charge on the material web applied by the corona charging electrode and each spray head on each side of the material web. This amendment is supported by the figure and the description thereof in the specification, from which it is apparent that an electrostatic field 8 having a field strength F is generated between the electrostatic charge on the material web (which is applied by the corona charging electrode) and each spray head 6 on each side of the material web. Independent claims 1, 4, 12 and 16 have also been amended to recite that the spray heads are grounded or have a polarity applied thereto opposite that of the corona electrode. See, e.g., page 3, lines 15 - 16 of applicants' specification.


The following is a statement of the substance of the personal interview conducted between the Examiner and the undersigned on June 2, 2004. During the interview, the undersigned explained the present invention and the differences between the present invention and the prior art. The explanation summarized the explanation provided on pages 8 - 11 of the Amendment filed June 1, 2004. The Examiner understood the differences between the present invention and the prior art and suggested that applicants' amend the claims to include functional language clarifying these differences. The undersigned and the Examiner discussed the fact that the corona charging electrode of the present invention, in combination with the grounded reversing roller or reversing roller of opposite polarity, provides an electrostatic charge on both sides of the material web such that an electric field can be generated between the electrostatic charge on the two opposite surfaces of the material web and the spray heads on each side of the material web.

Applicants submit the present invention is patentable for the reasons set forth in the remarks accompanying the Amendment filed June 1, 2004, which remarks are incorporated herein by reference.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 320.38785X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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